



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 21, 2019

RE: 2019-06-092

Ms. Emma Best
MuckRock News
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Email: 75264-30535023@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Ms. Emma Best:

This concerns your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the Department of the Treasury, dated June 12, 2019. You seek copies of emails sent to or from either the director's office (or equivalent) as well as their chief of staff (or equivalent) and executive director (or equivalent) containing any of the following 50 (non-case sensitive) words between 1 January 2018 and the present:

- Damn
- damnit
- goddamn
- goddam
- goddammit
- webcomic
- hurt
- accuse
- accused
- allege
- alleges
- alleged
- disgrace
- disgraced
- worry
- worries
- worried
- lost
- perjury
- perjured
- lie
- lies
- lied

- 1001
- 1621
- game
- marijuana
- drug
- activist
- activists
- riot
- soda
- reward
- prize
- save
- kill
- decimate
- punish
- punishment
- penalize
- penalized
- shred
- wipe
- erase
- delete
- bastard
- bitch
- bitched
- bitching
- dessert

Upon review of your request, it is unclear what specific records you seek from Department of the Treasury. Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason §1.5(d) of Treasury's FOIA regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart A require that you describe the records in reasonably sufficient detail to enable employees who are familiar with the subject area of the request to locate the records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the Department. Whenever possible, a request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, timeframe and subject matter of the record.

Your request is too broad to be processed. The Department of the Treasury does not have the ability to conduct a search of each employee's emails or records. The FOIA does not require agencies to search for the proverbial needle in a haystack, nor does it contemplate that requestors will ask for the entire haystack. "[I]t is the requester's responsibility to frame requests with sufficient particularity to ensure that searches are not unreasonably burdensome, and to enable the searching agency to determine precisely what records are being requested".

Please resubmit your request containing a reasonable description of the records you seek; you may do so by identifying Treasury custodians by name, title, and his or her program office, in addition to a topic or subject matter of the records. You can learn more about the Department of the Treasury at <https://home.treasury.gov/>; you will find information about Treasury Officials and the program offices within the Department of the Treasury, Departmental Offices (DO) on the left hand side of the page

If we do not receive an amended request from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, August 2, 2019, we will assume you are no longer interested in this FOIA request and will consider your request withdrawn. Please be advised that this action is not a denial of your request and will not preclude you from filing other requests in the future.

You may reach me via telephone at 202-622-0930, extension 2; or via email at FOIA@treasury.gov. Please reference the FOIA number at the top of this letter when contacting our office about this request. If you choose to mail your response, please use the following address:

FOIA and Transparency
Privacy, Transparency, and Records
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Sincerely,

Charlotte Patrick

Charlotte Patrick
FOIA Case Manager, FOIA and Transparency
Privacy, Transparency, and Records (PTR)